

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks and arguments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 and 13-23 are currently pending in this application, and the Examiner's allowance of Claims 2, 8-11 and 13-23 is noted with appreciation. By the foregoing amendment, independent Claim 1 has been revised. Accordingly, Claims 1-11 and 13-23 remain in this application for consideration and allowance.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 stand finally rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description due to the use in Claim 1 of the phrase "during maintenance of said predetermined pressure regulation setting at a constant level"; Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 stand finally rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,816,792 to Spencer; and Claim 4 stands finally rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,816,792 to Spencer. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

In the foregoing amendment the Examiner's 35 USC §112 first paragraph rejection of Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 based on the presence of the phrase "during maintenance of said predetermined pressure regulation setting at a constant level" has been overcome by the deletion of this phrase from Claim 1.

In the foregoing amendment the Examiner's anticipation rejection of Claims 1, 3 and 5-7, and his obviousness rejection of Claim 4, based on the Spencer reference have been overcome by the addition to Claim 1 of the patentable subject matter of allowed Claim 20 - namely, that the recited pressure regulator apparatus regulates the pressure of fuel discharged from its outlet portion **only with respect to said first fuel.**

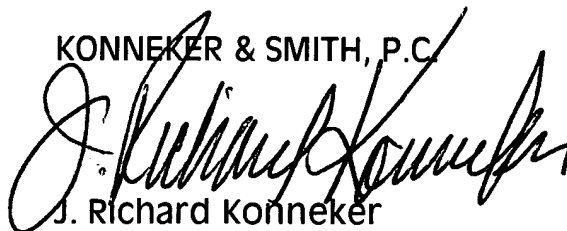
In contrast, the Spencer regulator valve 20 regulates the pressures of **both** the first and second fuels 1 and 2 discharged therefrom to the burner 18. It is thus respectfully submitted that none of applicant's Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 is anticipated by the Spencer reference, and that Claim 4 is not rendered obvious by such reference.

In view of the foregoing amendment, remarks and arguments, all of the claims currently pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of Claims 1-11 and 13-23 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972/516-0030 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on

October 27, 2004
Diane Sutton